

---

## ABSTRACT

A method for managing routing of traffic to protection links in an optical communication network having optical transmission and reception links extending between first and second locations. The method includes: detecting a fault on an optical link at the second locations, determining whether the total energy received over a reception optical link at the second location exceeds a threshold when the total energy received does not exceed the threshold switching at the second location the traffic transmission and reception to corresponding protection links, detecting a fault on an optical link at the first location, determining whether the total energy received at the first location over the receiving optical link exceeds the threshold and when the total energy received at the first location does not exceed the threshold, switching at the first location the traffic transmission and reception to the corresponding protection links.

---